Interexchange Common Carrier Service

Regulations, rates and charges applicable as interstate communications service furnished by:

IMPACT NETWORK SOLUTIONS, INC. d/b/a IMPACT LONG DISTANCE

This Tariff contains the descriptions, regulations, and rates applicable to the furnishing of telecommunications services by IMPACT NETWORK SOLUTIONS, INC. d/b/a IMPACT LONG DISTANCE ("Company"). This Tariff applies to Service originating from one or more points within the continental United States, Alaska, Hawaii, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands and terminating at one or more points therein.

Service is furnished by means of wire, terrestrial microwave radio, optical fibers, satellite circuits or a combination thereof.

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Effective: April 7, 2000

Issued by:

Daniel E. Newman, President

IMPACT NETWORK SOLUTIONS, INC.

d/b/a IMPACT LONG DISTANCE

CHECK SHEET

The title page and pages 1-49 inclusive of this Tariff are effective as of the date shown. Original and revised pages, as named below, comprise all changes from the original Tariff in effect on the date indicated.

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^{*} New or Revised Pages

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IMPACT NETWORK SOLUTIONS, INC.

d/b/a IMPACT LONG DISTANCE

2025 Tiffin Ave., Unit 2

F.C.C. Tariff No. 1 Original Page No. 3

CONCURRING, CONNECTING AND OTHER PARTICIPATING CARRIERS

CONCURRING CARRIERS: No Concurring Carriers

CONNECTING CARRIERS: No Connecting Carriers

OTHER PARTICIPATING CARRIERS: No Participating Carriers

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TARIFF FORMAT

Page Numbering - Page numbers appear in the upper right hand corner of the page. Pages are numbered sequentially and from time to time new pages may be added to the Tariff. When a new page is added between existing pages, a decimal is added to the preceding page number. For example, a new page added between Pages 3 and 4 would be numbered 3.1.

Paragraph Numbering Sequence - There are nine levels of paragraph coding. Each level of coding is subservient to its next higher level:

- 2.
- 2.1.
- 2.1.1.
- 2.1.1.A.
- 2.1.1.A.1.
- 2.1.1.A.1.(a).
- 2.1.1.A.1.(a).I. 2.1.1.A.1.(a).I.(i).
- 2.1.1.A.1.(a).I.(i).(1).

Check Sheets - When a Tariff filing is made with the F.C.C., an updated check sheet accompanies the Tariff filing. The check sheet lists the pages contained in the Tariff, with a cross reference to the current revision number. When new pages are added, the check sheet is changed to reflect the revision, all revisions made in a given filing are designated by an asterisk (*). There will be no other symbols used on this page if these are the only changes made to it. The Tariff user should refer to the latest check sheet to find out if a particular page is the most current on file with the F.C.C.

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d/b/a IMPACT LONG DISTANCE

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IMPACT NETWORK SOLUTIONS, INC. d/b/a IMPACT LONG DISTANCE

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APPLICABILITY

This Tariff contains the regulations and rates applicable to the provision of interstate telecommunications services by IMPACT NETWORK SOLUTIONS, INC. d/b/a IMPACT LONG DISTANCE (hereinafter "Company") between and among domestic points within the United States, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands, as specified herein.

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EXPLANATION OF SYMBOLS

- (D) To signify discontinued material
- (I) To signify a rate or charge increase
- (M) To signify material relocated without change in text or rate
- (N) To signify new material
- (R) To signify a reduction
- (S) To signify reissued matter
- (T) To signify a change in text but no change in rate or regulation
- (Z) To signify a correction

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DEFINITION OF TERMS

For the purpose of this Tariff, the following definitions will apply:

Access Coordination

Provides for the design, ordering, installation, coordination, pre-service testing, service turn-up and maintenance on a Company or Customer provided Local Access Channel.

Administrative Change

A change in Customer billing address or contact name.

Alternate Access

Alternate Access is a form of Local Access except that the provider of the Service is an entity, other than the Local Exchange Carrier, authorized or permitted to provide such Service. The charges for Alternate Access may be subject to private agreement rather than published or special Tariff if permitted by applicable governmental rules.

Application for Service

A standard Company order form which includes all pertinent billing, technical and other descriptive information which will enable the Company to provide a communication Service as required.

<u>A\$R</u>

ASR (Access Service Request) means an order placed with a Local Access Provider for Local Access.

Authorized User

A person, firm, corporation or other entity that either is authorized by the Customer to receive or send communications or is placed in a position by the Customer, either through acts or omissions, to send or receive communications.

Bandwidth

The total frequency band, in hertz, allocated for a channel.

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Bill Date

The date on which billing information is compiled and sent to the Customer.

Call

A completed connection between the Calling and Called Stations.

Called Station

The telephone number called.

Calling Station

The telephone number from which a Call originates.

Cancellation of Order

A Customer initiated request to discontinue processing a Service order, either in part or in its entirety, prior to its completion. Cancellation charges will be assessed for each Circuit-end or Dedicated Access line canceled from an order prior to its completion by the Company, under the following circumstances: (1) if the LEC has confirmed in writing to the Company that the Circuit-end or Dedicated Access line will be installed; or (2) if the Company has already submitted facilities orders to an interconnecting telephone company.

Channel or Circuit

A dedicated communications path between two or more points having a Bandwidth or Transmission Speed specified in this Tariff and selected by a Customer.

Company

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Customer

The person, firm, corporation or governmental unit which orders Service and which is responsible for the payment of charges and for compliance with the Company's Tariff regulations. A Customer is considered to be an account for billing purposes. The term Customer also includes an entity that remains presubscribed to the Company Service after its account(s) are removed from the Company's billing system, subsequently continues to use Company's network, and is billed by a local exchange carrier for such use, or otherwise uses Service for which no other Customer is obligated to compensate Company. A Customer may also be a Dealer.

Customer Premises/Customer's Premises

Locations designated by a Customer where Service is originated/terminated whether for its own communications needs or for the use of Authorized Users.

DCS

DCS means Digital Cross-Connect System.

<u>Dealer</u>

An independent sales representative or company which solicits Customers to participate in programs offered through the Company.

Dedicated Access/Special Access

Dedicated Local Access between the Customer's Premises or serving wire center and the Company's Point-of-Presence for origination or termination of Calls.

DS-0

DS-0 means Digital Signal Level 0 Service and is a 64 Kbps signal.

<u>DS-1</u>

DS-1 means Digital Signal Level 1 Service and is a 1.544 Mbps signal.

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DS-0 with VF Access

DS-0 Service with VF Local Access facilities provides for the transmission of analog voice and/or data within 300 Hz to 3000 Hz frequency range.

DS-0 with DDS Access

DS-0 Service with DDS Access facilities provides for the transmission of digital data at speeds 2.4, 4.8, 9.6 or 56 Kbps.

Due Date

The Due Date is the date on which payment is due.

Expedite

A Service order initiated at the request of the Customer that is processed in a time period shorter than the Company's standard service interval.

F.C.C.

Federal Communications Commission.

Gross Monthly Volume

Dealers Gross Monthly Volume as defined in the agreement with the Company.

Individual Case Basis (ICB)

Individual Case Basis (ICB) determinations involve situations where complex Customer-specific Company arrangements are required to satisfactorily serve the Customer. The nature of such service requirements makes it difficult or impossible to establish general Tariff provisions for such circumstances. When it becomes possible to determine specific terms and conditions for such offerings, they will be offered pursuant to such terms and conditions.

Installation

The connection of a Circuit, Dedicated Access line, or port for new, changed or an additional service.

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Interexchange Service

Interexchange Service means that portion of a communications channel between a Companydesignated Point-of-Presence in one exchange and a Point-of-Presence in another exchange.

Interruption

Interruption shall mean a condition whereby the Service or a portion thereof is inoperative, beginning at the time of notice by the Customer to Company that such Service is inoperative and ending at the time of restoration.

<u>Kbps</u>

Kilobits per second.

LATA (Local Access and Transport Area)

A geographical area established for the provision and administration of communications service of a local exchange company.

Local Access

Local Access means the Service between a Customer Premises and a Company designated Point-of-Presence.

Local Access Provider

Local Access Provider means an entity providing Local Access.

Local Exchange Carrier (LEC)

The local telephone utility that provides telephone exchange services.

<u>Mbps</u>

Megabits per second.

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Multiplexing

Multiplexing is the sequential combining of lower bit rate Private Line Services onto a higher bit rate Private Line Service for more efficient facility capacity usage or vice versa.

N/A

Not available.

N/C

No charge.

NECA

National Exchange Carrier Association

Nonrecurring Charges

Nonrecurring Charges are one-time charges.

Payment Method

The manner which the Customer designates as the means of billing charges for Calls using the Company's Service.

Physical Change

The modification of an existing Circuit, Dedicated Access line or port, at the request of the Customer, requiring some Physical Change or retermination.

Point-of-Presence (POP)

A Company-designated location where a facility is maintained for the purpose of providing access to its Service.

Primary Route

The route which, in the absence of Customer-designated routing or temporary re-routing, would be used by the Company in the provision of Service.

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Private Line

A dedicated transmission channel furnished to a Customer without intermediate switching arrangements for full-time Customer use.

Private Line Service

A dedicated full-time transmission Service utilizing dedicated access arrangements.

Rate Center

A specified geographical location used for determining mileage measurements.

Requested Service Date

The Requested Service Date is the date requested by the Customer for commencement of Service and agreed to by the Company.

Restore

To make Service operative following an interruption by repair, reassignment, re-routing, substitution of component parts, or otherwise, as determined by the carrier(s) involved.

Route Diversity

Two channels which are furnished partially or entirely over two physically separate routes.

Service

Service means any or all Service(s) provided pursuant to this Tariff.

Service Commitment Period

The term elected by the Customer and stated on the Service Order, or in the Company Term Plan agreement with the Customer, during which the Company will provide the Services subscribed to by the Customer, and the Customer will be obligated to pay for Services or other applicable charges. The term can be monthly or in the case of a Company Term Plan for a period of up to 5 years. The Customer will be subject to a Termination Charge for terminating Company's Services prior to the expiration of the Service Commitment Period.

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Special Promotional Offerings

Special trial offerings, discounts, or modifications of its regular Service offerings which the Company may, from time to time, offer to its Customers for a particular Service. Such offerings may be limited to certain dates, times and locations.

Start of Service Date

The Requested Service Date or the date Service is made available by the Company whichever is later.

Tariff

The current Interstate Services Tariff and effective revisions thereto filed by the Company with the Federal Communications Commission.

Transmission Speed

Data transmission speed or rate, in bits per seconds (bps).

Twelve O'Clock

In designated time, 12:00 a.m. refers to 12:00 Midnight and 12:00 p.m. refers to 12:00 Noon.

Two-Way Conversation

A Two-Way Conversation is a telephone conversation between or among two or more parties.

<u>VF</u>

VF is voice frequency or voice-grade service designed for private-line service. Normal transmission is in the 300 hertz to 3000 hertz frequency band.

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d/b/a IMPACT LONG DISTANCE 2025 Tiffin Ave., Unit 2

2. RULES AND REGULATIONS

2.1. <u>Description and Limitations of Services</u>

- 2.1.1. Services provided pursuant to this Tariff may be utilized only for the transmission of communications by Customers consistent with the terms of this Tariff, the rules and regulations of the F.C.C. and the requirements of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended. The Company may require a Customer to sign an application form and to establish credit worthiness as a condition precedent to the initial establishment of Service. The application shall state the date on which service shall begin and the points between which service is to be provided, the type of facilities required, and any special arrangements related thereto.
- 2.1.2. Any member of the general public (including any natural person or legally organized entity such as a corporation, partnership, or governmental body) is entitled to obtain Service under this Tariff, provided that the Company reserves the right to deny Service: (A) to any Customer that, in the Company's reasonable opinion, presents an undue risk of nonpayment and refuses to comply with the deposit requirements set forth in this Tariff, (B) in circumstances in which the Company has reason to believe that the use of the Service would violate the provisions of this Tariff or any applicable law or if any applicable law restricts or prohibits provision of the Service, or (C) if insufficient facilities are available to provide the Service.
- 2.1.3. Service is offered in equal access exchanges subject to the availability of facilities and the provisions of this Tariff. Company reserves the right to refuse to provide Service to or from any location where it has not ordered access facilities, installed network interconnections or the necessary facilities and/or equipment are not available.
- 2.1.4. Service begins on the date that billing becomes effective and is provided on the basis of a minimum period of at least one month, 24 hours per day. For the purposes of computing charges in this Tariff, a month is considered to have 30 days.
- 2.1.5. Customers may cancel or discontinue Service on not less than thirty (30) days' written notice from the date of postmark on the letter giving notice of cancellation, unless the Customer is subscribing to Service under a Company Term Plan. Customers terminating or discontinuing Service under a Company Term Plan prior to the expiration of the Service Commitment Period shall be responsible for the Termination Charges set forth in Section 2.15.1 of this Tariff.

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IMPACT NETWORK SOLUTIONS, INC. d/b/a IMPACT LONG DISTANCE

2025 Tiffin Ave., Unit 2

- 2.1.6. The Company reserves the right to discontinue furnishing Services or billing options, upon written notice, when necessitated by conditions beyond its control. Conditions beyond the Company's control include, but are not limited to, a Customer's having Call volume or a calling pattern that results, or may result, in network blockage or other Service degradation which adversely affects Service to the calling party, the Customer, or other Customers of the Company.
- 2.1.7. The name(s) of the Customer(s) desiring to use the Service must be stipulated in the Application for Service, Service Order or Term Plan agreement.
- 2.1.8. A Customer shall not use any servicemark or trademark of the Company or refer to the Company in connection with any product, equipment, promotion, or publication of the Customer without prior written approval of the Company.
- 2.1.9. In the event suit is brought or any attorney is retained by the Company to enforce the terms of this Tariff, the Company shall be entitled to recover, in addition to any other remedy, reimbursement for reasonable attorneys' fees, court costs, costs of investigation and other related expenses incurred in connection therewith.
- 2.1.10. The provision of Service will not create a partnership or joint venture between the Company and the Customer nor result in joint Service offerings to their respective Customers.
- 2.2. Other Terms and Conditions
- 2.2.1. The Customer agrees to operate the Company provided equipment in accordance with instructions of the Company or the Company's agent. Failure to do so will void the Company liability for interruption of Service and may make Customer responsible for damage to equipment.
- 2.2.2. Customer agrees to return to the Company all Company-provided equipment delivered to Customer within five (5) days of termination of the Service in connection with which the equipment was used. Said equipment shall be in the same condition as when delivered to Customer, normal wear and tear only excepted. Customer shall reimburse the Company, upon demand, for any costs incurred by the Company due to Customer's failure to comply with this provision.

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- 2.2.3. The Company reserves the right of entrance for its employees, agents or contractors to the premises of the subscriber, at any reasonable hour for the purpose of installing, inspecting, repairing, or upon termination of service, removing carrier's or Company equipment. It shall be the responsibility of the Customer to make any necessary arrangements with the owners of the premises for the entrance of the Company's employees, agents or contractors.
- 2.2.4. Service requested by Customer and to be provided pursuant to this Tariff shall be requested on Company Service Order forms in effect from time to time or Customer's forms accepted in writing by an authorized headquarters representative of the Company (collectively referred to as "Service Orders").
- 2.2.5. If an entity other than the Company (i.e., another carrier or a supplier) imposes charges on the Company in connection with a Service, that entity's charges will be passed through to the Customer also.
- 2.2.6. The Service Commitment Period for any Service shall be established by the Service Order or Company Term Plan agreement relevant thereto, and commence on the Start of Service Date. Upon expiration, each Service Commitment Period for such Service shall automatically be extended for a term equal to the original Service Commitment Period, subject to written notice of termination by either Company as provided herein, or Customer as of a date not less than thirty (30) days after delivery of said notice to the Company. The charges for Interexchange Service during any such extension shall not exceed the then current Company month-to-month charges applicable to such Service.

2.3. Liability

2.3.1. Except as provided otherwise in this Tariff, the Company shall not be liable to Customer or any other person, firm or entity for any failure of performance hereunder if such failure is due to any cause or causes beyond the reasonable control of the Company. Such causes shall include, without limitation, acts of God, fire, explosion, vandalism, cable cut, storm or other similar occurrence, any law, order, regulation, direction, action or request of the United States government or of any other government or of any civil or military authority, national emergencies, insurrections, riots, wars, strikes, lockouts or work stoppages or other labor difficulties, supplier failures, shortages, breaches or delays, or preemption of existing Services to restore service in compliance with Part 64, Subpart D, Appendix A, of the F.C.C.'s Rules and Regulations.

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- 2.3.2. With respect to any claim or suit, the Company's liability, if any, shall not exceed an amount equal to the charge applicable under this Tariff to the period during which Services were affected. For those Services with monthly recurring charges, the Company's liability is limited to an amount equal to the proportionate monthly recurring charges for the period during which Service was affected.
- 2.3.3. The Company is not liable for any act or omission of any other company or companies furnishing a portion of the Service, facilities, or equipment associated with such Service.
- 2.3.4. The Customer is responsible for taking all necessary legal steps for interconnecting the Customer provided terminal equipment with the Company facilities. The Customer is responsible for securing all licenses, permits, rights-of-way, and other arrangements necessary for such interconnection.
- 2.3.5. The failure to give notice of default, to enforce or insist upon compliance with any of the terms or conditions herein, the waiver of any term or conditions herein, or the granting of an extension of time for performance by the Company or the Customer shall not constitute the permanent waiver of any term or condition herein. Each of the provisions shall remain at all time in full force and effect until modified in writing.
- The Company shall not be liable to the Customer or any other person, firm or entity in any respect whatsoever as a result of mistakes, accidents, errors, omissions, interruptions, delays, or defects in Service (collectively "Defects"). Defects caused by or contributed to, directly or indirectly, by any act or omission of Customer or its customers, affiliates, agents, representatives, invitees, licensees, successors or assigns or which arise from or are caused by the use of facilities or equipment of Customer or related parties shall not result in the imposition of any liability whatsoever upon the Company, and Customer shall pay to the Company any reasonable costs, expenses, damages, fees or penalties incurred by the Company as a result thereof, including penalties incurred by the Company as a result thereof, including costs of Local Access Providers' labor and materials. In addition, all or a portion of the Service may be provided over facilities of third parties, or sold by third parties, and the Company shall not be liable to Customer or any other person, firm or entity in any respect whatsoever arising out of Defects caused by such third parties. THE COMPANY SHALL NOT BE LIABLE FOR ANY DIRECT, INDIRECT, CONSEQUENTIAL, SPECIAL, ACTUAL, PUNITIVE OR ANY OTHER DAMAGES, OR BUSINESS INTERRUPTION, FOR ANY LOST PROFITS OF ANY KIND OR NATURE WHATSOEVER ARISING OUT OF ANY DEFECTS OR ANY OTHER CAUSE. THIS WARRANTY AND THESE REMEDIES ARE EXCLUSIVE AND IN LIEU OF ALL OTHER WARRANTIES OR REMEDIES, WHETHER EXPRESS, IMPLIED OR STATUTORY, INCLUDING WITHOUT LIMITATION IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF

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IMPACT NETWORK SOLUTIONS, INC.

d/b/a IMPACT LONG DISTANCE

MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. IN THE EVENT OF AN INTERRUPTION IN SERVICE OR ANY DEFECT IN THE SERVICE WHATSOEVER, NEITHER COMPANY NOR ANY AFFILIATED OR UNAFFILIATED THIRD PARTY, THIRD PARTY PROVIDER OR OPERATOR OF FACILITIES EMPLOYED IN THE PROVISION OF THE SERVICE SHALL BE LIABLE FOR ANY DIRECT, INDIRECT, CONSEQUENTIAL, SPECIAL, ACTUAL, PUNITIVE OR ANY OTHER DAMAGES, OR FOR ANY LOST PROFITS OF ANY KIND OR NATURE WHATSOEVER.

- 2.3.7. With respect to the routing of Calls by the Company to public safety answering points or municipal Emergency Service providers, Company liability, if any, will be limited to the actual monetary damages incurred and proved by the Customer as the direct result of the Company's action, or failure to act, in routing the Call.
- 2.3.8. In the event parties other than Customer (i.e., Customer's customers) shall have use of the Service directly or indirectly through Customer, then Customer agrees to forever indemnify and hold Company and any affiliated or unaffiliated third-party, third-party provider or operator of facilities employed in provision of the Service harmless from and against any and all claims, demands, suits, actions, losses, damages, assessments or payments which may be asserted by said parties arising out of or relating to any Defects.
- 2.3.9. In the event that Company is required to perform a Circuit redesign due to inaccurate information provided by the Customer; or, circumstances in which such costs and expenses are caused by the Customer or reasonably incurred by the Company for the benefit of the Customer, the Customer is responsible for the payment of all such charges.

2.4. <u>Discontinuance of Service</u>

- 2.4.1. Upon nonpayment of any sum owing to the Company, or upon a violation of any of the provisions governing the furnishing of Service under this Tariff, the Company may, upon written notification to the Customer without incurring any liability, immediately discontinue the furnishing of such Service. The written notice may be separate and apart from the regular monthly bill for service. Customer shall be deemed to have canceled Service as of the date of such disconnection and shall be liable for any cancellation or termination charges set forth in this Tariff, or contract between the Customer or Dealer, and Company.
- 2.4.2. The Company reserves the right to discontinue furnishing Service or billing options, upon written notice, when necessitated by conditions beyond its reasonable control.

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- 2.4.3. Service may be discontinued by Company, without notice to Customer, by blocking traffic to or from certain cities, or NXX exchanges, or by blocking calls using certain Customer authorization codes such as Calling Card codes, when the Company deems it necessary to take such action to prevent unlawful use of its Service. The Company may restore Service as soon as it may be practical without undue risk.
- 2.4.4. Without incurring any liability, the Company may discontinue the furnishing of Service(s) to a Customer immediately and without notice if the Company deems that such action is necessary to prevent or to protect against fraud or to otherwise protect its personnel, agents, facilities or Services.
- 2.4.5. Except as otherwise provided in this Tariff, or as specified in writing between the parties, notice may be given orally or in writing to the persons whose names and business addresses appear on the executed Service Order and the effective date of any notice shall be the date of delivery of such notice, not the date of mailing. By written notice, Company or Customer may change the party to receive notice and/or the address to which such notice is to be delivered. In the event no Customer or Company address is provided in the executed Service Order, notice shall be given to the last known business address of Customer or, as appropriate.
- 2.4.6. The discontinuance of Service(s) by the Company pursuant to this Section does not relieve the Customer of any obligations to pay the Company for charges due and owing for Service(s) furnished up to the time of discontinuance. The remedies set forth herein shall not be exclusive and the Company shall at all times be entitled to all rights available to it under either law or equity.

2.5. Credit Allowance

- 2.5.1. Credit allowance for the interruption of Service is subject to the general liability provisions set forth in this Tariff. Customers shall receive no credit allowance for the interruption of Service which is due to the Company's testing or adjusting, negligence of the Customer, or to the failure of channels or equipment provided by the Customer. The Customer should notify the Company when the Customer is aware of any interruption in Service for which a credit allowance is desired. Before giving such notice, the Customer shall ascertain that the trouble is not being caused by any action or omission within Customer's control, or is not in wiring or equipment, if any, furnished by the Customer in connection with the Company's Services.
- 2.5.2. No credit is allowed in the event Service must be interrupted in order to provide routine service quality or related investigations.

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- 2.5.3. No credit shall be allowed:
 - 2.5.3.A. For failure of Services or facilities of Customer; or
 - 2.5.3.B. For failure of Services or equipment caused by the negligence or willful acts of Customer.
- 2.5.4. Credit for an interruption shall commence after Customer notifies Company of the interruption and ceases when Services have been restored.
- 2.5.5. Credits are applicable only to that portion of Service interrupted.
- 2.5.6. For purposes of credit computation, every month shall be considered to have 720 hours.
- 2.5.7. No credit shall be allowed for an interruption of a continuous duration of less than two hours.
- 2.5.8. The Customer shall be credited for an interruption of two hours or more at a rate of 1/720th of the monthly recurring charge for the service affected for each hour or major fraction thereof that the interruption continues. Calculations of the credit shall be made in accordance with the following formula.

Credit Formula:

Credit = $\underline{A} \times B$

"A" = outage time in hours

"B" = total monthly charge for affected facility

2.6. Use of Service

2.6.1. The Services offered herein may be used for any lawful purpose, including residential, business, governmental, or other use. There are no restrictions on sharing or resale of Services. However, the Customer remains liable for all obligations under this Tariff notwithstanding such sharing or resale and regardless of the Company's knowledge of same. The Company shall have no liability to any person or entity other than the Customer and only as set forth in Section 2.3. The Customer shall not use nor permit others to use the Service in a manner that could interfere with Services provided to others or that could harm the facilities of the Company or others, or that is consistent with any applicable law or regulation.

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- 2.6.2. The Customer will be billed directly by the LEC for certain Dedicated Access arrangements selected by the Customer for the provisioning of direct access arrangements. In those instances where the Company at the Customer's request may act as agent in the ordering of such arrangements, the Company will bill the Customer Local Access charges.
- 2.7. Payment Arrangements
- 2.7.1. The Customer is responsible for payment of all charges for Services furnished to the Customer or its joint or Authorized Users. This responsibility is not changed due to any use, misuse, or abuse of the Customer's Service or Customer provided equipment by third parties, the Customer's employees, or the public.
- 2.7.2. The Company's bills are due upon receipt. Amounts not paid within 7 days from the Bill Date of the invoice will be considered past due. Customers will be assessed a late fee on past due amounts in the amount not to exceed the maximum lawful rate under applicable state law. If a Customer presents an undue risk of nonpayment at any time, the Company may require that Customer to pay its bills within a specified number of days and to make such payments in cash or the equivalent of cash.
- 2.7.3. Customers who present an undue risk of nonpayment may be required to provide Company with a security deposit, up to an amount equal to the applicable installation charges, if any, and/or up to one year's actual or estimated usage charges for the Service to be provided. Such applicants or Customers may also be required, at any time, to provide other assurances of, or security for, the payment of the Company's charges for its Services as the Company may deem necessary, including, without limitation, advance payments for service, third party guarantees of payment, pledges or other grants of security interests in the Customer's assets, and similar arrangements. The required deposit or other security may be increased or decreased by the Company as it deems appropriate in light of the changing conditions.
- 2.7.4. In determining whether a Customer presents an undue risk of nonpayment, the Company shall consider the following factors: (A) the Customer's payment history (if any) with the Company and its affiliates, (B) Customer's ability to demonstrate adequate ability to pay for the Service, (C) credit and related information provided by Customer, lawfully obtained from third parties or publicly available, and (D) information relating to Customer's management, owners and affiliates (if any).
- 2.7.5. Disputes with respect to charges must be presented to the Company in writing within thirty days from the date the invoice is rendered or such invoice will be deemed to be correct and binding on the Customer.

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- 2.7.6. If a LEC has established or establishes a Special Access surcharge, the Company will bill the surcharge beginning on the effective date of such surcharge for Special Access arrangements presently in Service. The Company will cease billing the Special Access surcharge upon receipt of an Exemption Certificate or if the surcharge is removed by the LEC.
- 2.7.7. In the event the Company incurs fees or expenses, including attorney's fees, in collecting, or attempting to collect, any charges owed the Company, the Customer will be liable to the Company for the payment of all such fees and expenses reasonably incurred.

2.8. Assignment

2.8.1. The obligations set forth in this Tariff shall be binding upon and inure to the benefit of the parties hereto and their respective successors or assigns, provided, however, the Customer shall not assign or transfer its rights or obligations without the prior written consent of the Company.

2.9. Tax and Fee Adjustments

- 2.9.1. When any municipality, or other political subdivision, local agency of government, or department of public utilities imposes upon and collects from the Company a gross receipts tax, occupation tax, license tax, permit fee, franchise fee or regulatory fee, such taxes and fees shall, insofar as practicable, be billed pro rata to the Company's Customers receiving service within the territorial limits of such municipality, other political subdivision, local agency of government, or public utility commission.
- 2.9.2. The Company may adjust its rates and charges or impose additional rates and charges on its Customers in order to recover amount it is required by governmental or quasi-government authorities to collect from or pay to others in support of statutory or regulatory programs. Examples of such programs include, but are not limited to, the Universal Service Fund, the Primary Interexchange Carrier Charge, and compensation to payphone service providers for use of their payphones to access the Company's services.

2.10. Method for Calculation of Airline Mileage

2.10.1. The airline mileage between two cities can be calculated using the Vertical (V) and Horizontal (H) coordinates of the serving wire centers associated with the Company's POP locations. The method for calculating the airline mileage is obtained by reference to the NECA F.C.C. Tariff No. 4 according to the following formula:

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the square root of:

$$(V1-V2)^2 + (H1-H2)^2$$

where V1 and H1 correspond to the V&H coordinates of City 1 and V2 and H2 correspond to the V&H coordinates of City 2.

Example:

V H City 1 5004 1406 City 2 5987 3424

the square root of:

 $(5004-5987)^2 + (1406-3424)^2$

10

The result is 709.83 miles. Any fractional miles are rounded to the next higher whole number; therefore, the airline mileage for this example is 710 miles.

2.11. Time of Day Rate Periods

2.11.1. Time of Day Rate Periods are determined by the time of day at the location of the Calling station.

The rates shown in Section 4 apply as follows:

DAY:

From 8:00 AM up to, but not including, 5:00 PM Monday - Friday

EVENING:

From 5:00 PM up to, but not including, 11:00 PM Monday - Friday and

Sunday

2.12. Recognized National Holidays

2.12.1. The Company observes the following federally recognized holidays: New Year's Day, Martin Luther King Day, President's Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Columbus Day, Veteran's Day, Thanksgiving Day, and Christmas Day. The Company shall charge the evening rate unless a lower rate would normally apply. When a Call begins in one rate period and ends in another, the rate in effect in each rate period applies to the portion of the Call occurring within that rate period. In the event that a minute is split between two rate periods, the rate in effect at the start of that minute applies.

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2.13. Special Customer Arrangements

2.13.1. In cases where a Customer requests a special or unique arrangement which may include engineering, conditioning, Installation, construction, facilities, assembly, purchase or lease of facilities and/or other special Services not offered under this Tariff, the Company, at this option, may provide the requested Services. Appropriate Recurring Charges and/or Nonrecurring Charges and other terms and conditions will be developed for the Customer for the provisioning of such arrangements.

2.14. Inspection

2.14.1. The Company may, upon notice, make such tests and inspections as may be necessary to determine that the requirements of this Tariff are being complied with in the Installation, operation or maintenance of Customer or the Company equipment. The Company may interrupt the Service at any time, without penalty to the Company, should Customer violate any provision herein.

2.15. Termination Charge for Company Term Plans

2.15.1. Customers may select to subscribe to a Company Term Plan for a term of up to five (5) years. The effective date of the Term Plan will begin upon completion of installation, and continue for the Service Commitment Period subscribed to by the Customer. Cancellation prior to the expiration date of a Term Plan will result in a Termination Charge. The Termination Charge will include all nonrecoverable portions of expenditures or liabilities incurred expressly on behalf of Customer by Company and not fully reimbursed by Customer, including any and all installation and labor charges, along with agreed to termination charges.

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